

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing content-on-demand, comprising:
dividing a content stream in to a plurality of extents containing packetized
information appropriate to a temporal period represented by each extent; and
5 associating with each extent, a data extent comprising a plurality of content data
packets, and an extent trailer comprising a unique content identifier, a logical extent
number, a track-type identifier, and a circular redundancy check.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
10 striping said plurality of extents of said content stream across a plurality of disk
drives.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
transmitting said plurality of extents of said content stream to at least one subscriber
15 terminal in response to a request for content.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said unique content identifier is associated with a
particular content stream.
- 20 5. The method of claim 1, wherein said logical extent number provides a number
indicative of a relative position of said data extent with respect to other data extents within
said content stream.
6. The method of claim 5, wherein each said logical extent number is sequentially
25 numbered within said content stream.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein said track-type identifier comprises indicia of a
type of track selected from the group consisting of a play track, a fast-forward track, and a
reverse-play track.
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8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

performing a circular redundancy check (CRC) operation on said plurality of content data packets of each data extent during initial formation of said data extent.

9. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

5 replacing a corrupted data extent with a replacement data extent in an instance where said CRC operation identifies said corrupted data extent.

10. The method of claim 8, further comprising:

masking a corrupted data extent in an instance where said CRC operation identifies
10 a corrupted data extent.

11. Apparatus for providing content-on-demand, comprising:

means for dividing a content stream in to a plurality of extents containing packetized information appropriate to a temporal period represented by each extent; and

15 means for associating with each extent, a data extent comprising a plurality of content data packets, and an extent trailer comprising a unique content identifier, a logical extent number, a track-type identifier, and a circular redundancy check.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

20 means for striping said plurality of extents of said content stream across a plurality of disk drives.

13. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

means for transmitting said plurality of extents of said content stream to at least one
25 subscriber terminal in response to a request for content.

14. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said unique content identifier is associated with a particular content stream.

15. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said logical extent number provides a number indicative of a relative position of said data extent with respect to other data extents within said content stream.

5 16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein each said logical extent number is sequentially numbered within said content stream.

17. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said track-type identifier comprises indicia of a type of track selected from the group consisting of a play track, a fast-forward track, and a
10 reverse-play track.

18. The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:
means for performing a circular redundancy check (CRC) operation on said
plurality of content data packets of each data extent during initial formation of said data
15 extent.

19. The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising:
means for replacing a corrupted data extent with a replacement data extent in an
instance where said CRC operation identifies said corrupted data extent.

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20. The apparatus of claim 18, further comprising:
means for masking a corrupted data extent in an instance where said CRC operation
identifies a corrupted data extent.